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December 20, 2001

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## BOX PATENT APPLICATION

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

RE: *U.S. Patent Application Entitled: METHOD FOR MONITORING COAGULABILITY  
AND HYPERCOAGULABLE STATES – By Shinichiro Kurosawa and Deborah J.  
Stearns-Kurosawa*

Commissioner:

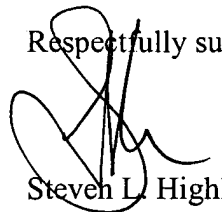
Transmitted herewith for filing is a 37-page patent specification including 30 claims and an abstract. Also included are Figures 1-7 on 7 sheets. The specification and drawings constitute the application of Shinichiro Kurosawa and Deborah J. Stearns-Kurosawa for the captioned invention.

☒ Applicants are entitled to Small Entity Status Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.27.

Please note that this application is filed without an inventors' Declaration and Assignment, a Power of Attorney, and filing fees. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b) and (f), the Applicants request the Patent and Trademark Office to accept this application and accord a serial number and filing date as of the date this application is deposited with the U.S. Postal Service for Express Mail. Further, the Applicants request that the NOTICE OF MISSING PARTS-FILING DATE GRANTED pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(f) be sent to the undersigned Applicants' representative.

Please date stamp and return the enclosed postcard to evidence receipt of this application.

Respectfully submitted,



Steven L. Highlander  
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SLH/cpj  
Encl.: